

Theme: Jesus is the True Seed of Abraham, and all of the promises made to Abraham and his seed find their fulfillment in Christ and the Church.

I. Intro – You’re Dangerous!!!

- A. Conversation on Seed of Abraham
- B. Friend accused me of being dangerous!
- C. Who is the seed of Abraham?

II. “Not seeds - And to your seed”

- A. Paul is quoting from Gen 12:7; 13:15; 24:7
 - 1. 3 of 5 places words spoken to Abraham
 - 2. אָרֶץ and σπέρμα - singular/collective
 - 3. Paul is saying these texts about Christ! How?
- B. Paul notes there is one seed – not many
 - 1. Yet Abraham’s seed numerous (Gen 15:5)
 - 2. Paul also spoke of many “seeds” (Rom 4:18; Gal 3:29)
 - 3. Real focus is not many people, but One! How?

III. The Seed of Abraham?

- A. Physical seed– the Jews (Jn 8:33)
 - 1. Common understanding (Jn 8:33)

- 2. Simply referring to Jewish people

B. Yet more than physical seed – seed of promise

- 1. Ishmael is also Abraham’s physical seed!
- 2. Promise goes through Isaac (Gen 21:12; 26:3)
- 3. Esau is Abraham’s seed through Isaac!
- 4. Promise goes through Jacob (Genesis 28:13)
- 5. True seed not just physical (Romans 9:6-8)
- 6. Physical seed can be seed of devil! (Jn 8:33,37,39,44)

IV. The True Seed of Abraham

A. Christ is the True Seed of Abraham

- 1. Galatians 3:16, 19 – Christ is the Seed (NAS)
 - a. He is the true seed to whom promise was made
 - b. All others seeds only pointed to Him
- 2. Acts 3:25-26 – Blessing through Christ the Seed
 - a. He is the Seed Who brings blessing to all
 - b. All others seeds only point to Him as Blessing

B. Church now the seed of Abraham through Christ

- 1. Galatians 3:6-7 – Believers are sons of Abraham

2. Gal 3:29 – Believers are Abrahams seed & heirs
3. Gal 4:22-31 – We are free children of promise
4. Romans 9:6-8 – Children of promise are seed

V. Conclusion & Summary

- A. The seed of Abraham is key for biblical covenants
 1. The seed brings the blessing
 2. The seed receives the promises of God
- B. The seed of Abraham is not reckoned physically
 1. Clear from NT texts we have seen
 2. Clear from OT texts as well
 3. Physical is merely a type/shadow of the real
- C. The true seed: Christ
 1. Christ is the seed promised to Abraham
 2. Christ is the seed to whom promises were made
 3. Christ is focus and fulfillment of Seed!
- D. The key issue: faith in Christ
 1. To be seed, you must be in Christ
 2. All in Christ are Abrahams seed, receive promise

3. All outside Christ, not seed, no promise
4. Christ: key to promises (2 Corinthians 1:20)

Jesus: The True Seed of Abraham

Galatians 3:16
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Communion
Numbers 6

⁷ The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." Genesis 12:7

¹⁵ All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. Genesis 13:15

⁷ "The LORD, the God of heaven, who brought me out of my father's household and my native land and who spoke to me and promised me on oath, saying, 'To your offspring I will give this land'-- Genesis 24:7

⁵ He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars- if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Genesis 15:5

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Romans 4:18

²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:29

They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" John 8:33

But God said to him, "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your maidservant. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." Genesis 21:12

Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. Genesis 26:3

¹³ There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Genesis 28:13

⁶ It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷ Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." ⁸ In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring. Romans 9:6-8

They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"...³⁷ I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word.... ³⁹ "Abraham is our father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do the things Abraham did.... ⁴⁴ You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:33,37,39,44

And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, "Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed."²⁶ When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways." Acts 3:25-26

Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." ⁷ Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. Galatians 3:6-7

²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:29

²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. ²³ His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise. ²⁴ These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. ²⁵ Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶ But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother. ²⁷ For it is written: "Be glad, O barren woman, who bears no children; break forth and cry aloud, you who have no labor pains; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband." ²⁸ Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹ At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now. ³⁰ But what does the Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son." ³¹ Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman. Galatians 4:22-31

⁶ It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷ Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." ⁸ In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring. Romans 9:6-8